

# Towards a new Association

## Report from the ALIA/ACLIS Leadership committee

The Leadership Committee met in Canberra on 8 April and took significant steps toward the formation of the new organisation. The meeting commenced with a presentation by Veronica Lunn and Ian McCallum on their consultancy to review the services likely to be required by members of the new organisation.

Veronica and Ian conducted a number of focus groups involving members of both ALIA and ACLIS. In general, they found that: there is a similarity between the current services provided by ALIA and ACLIS, and those expected in the future; consideration needs to be given to the way in which services are provided; and a recasting of organisational culture would be beneficial. A fuller account of the consultancy will appear in the June issue of *inCite*. It is also available now on ALIANet (in full) at <http://www.alia.org.au/alia-aclis/>.

Taking into account the consultancy report and comments received from members, especially through branch and regional meetings, the committee confirmed that its role is to identify and deal with those matters which are essential for the legal creation of the new organisation. The committee is also seeking to identify those issues which require further attention as part of the ongoing development of the new organisation but which can be deferred for consideration in 1999.

Issues requiring immediate attention include:

- *Incorporation* — a company limited by guarantee;
- *Name* — the opinion of members is to be sought through an article in *inCite/ACLIS News* which discusses alternatives and their implications;
- *Objectives* — necessary for incorporation and will be based on the existing ALIA and ACLIS objectives;
- *Vision* — the existing ALIA vision statement was considered appropriate: Excellence in library and information services;
- *Constitution* — there are minimum requirements specified in the incorporation legislation. Amendments will take account of existing ALIA and ACLIS constitutions but will be kept broad to facilitate future changes;
- *President* — elected by the membership for a two-year term comprising one year as vice-president and the following year as president;
- *Governance* — an executive board of directors comprising president, vice-president, three members elected by and from the National Council. The executive director of the association will be a non-voting member of the Executive Board. The Board will be responsible for policy decisions and overall management of the association and will be advised by a National Council comprising president, vice-president, state/territory branch presidents or delegates, four members elected by the membership at large, executive director (non-voting). The past president will not be a member of the National Council or the Board.

Issues which are important but do not require resolution by the leadership committee include:

- membership categories;
- accreditation of individuals, institutions and educational courses; and
- specific services.

The Committee recognised that some interim arrangements need to be made to ensure the smooth provision of services and to facilitate the establishment of the new organisation. The Committee agreed that:

- the 1998 ALIA vice-president should become the president of the new organisation in 1999;
- all other office bearers of the new organisation should be elected by its financial members. It may be necessary for ALIA to proceed with its 1999 elections if the new organisation will not be operational in January 1999. The legal requirements for this are to be investigated as it would be preferable not to have two elections; and
- the ALIA fee structure will be amended to reflect the differences in the ALIA and ACLIS institutional charges.

The Committee believes that the progress made at the meeting will enable the expeditious establishment of the new organisation and Committee members look forward to its creation.

The next meeting of the Committee will be 31 July, but members will continue to use e-mail to discuss issues between meetings. ■

## ELECTRONIC ONLINE SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL

PRESENTS

## GRAPHICAL LIBRARY AUTOMATION SERIES

PHONE 1800-025-012 FOR YOUR  
FREE SAMPLER

Modules Include:

Cataloguing

Circulation

Serials Accessioning & Claiming

Acquisitions Ordering & Budgeting

Databridge (Marc Import/Export)

GoPAC (Graphical Online Public Access Catalog)

WorldPAC (World Wide Web OPAC)



Electronic Online Systems (EOS) International Pty Limited

15/3 Lancaster Street, Ingleburn, New South Wales 2565

Phone: 1800-025-012 • International +61-2-9829-2644

Fax: +61-2-9829-3747

E-mail: [marketing@eosintl.com.au](mailto:marketing@eosintl.com.au)

URL: <http://www.eosintl.com.au>